AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An implant for releasing an active substance into a body vessel, the body vessel having a vessel wall and a vessel lumen through which ~~a~~ body ~~medium~~ fluid can flows, the ~~vessel lumen~~direction of fluid flow ~~defining~~ being defined by a ~~central~~ vessel lumen axis, ~~said~~ the implant comprising:

a) a ~~basic~~ hollow ~~body~~member made at least partially of a biodegradable material and ~~comprising~~ having a wall with an interior surface defining a ~~basic body~~member lumen which is generally co-axial with the vessel lumen axis and through which fluid can flow, the wall also having an exterior surface which can contact the vessel wall when implanted ~~and a biodegradable material as substrate for the active substance to be released, and around which the body medium flows on the inside of the implant~~; and,

~~b) a coating on at least a portion of the basic body interior surface facing the vessel lumen axis;~~

be) at least one cavity defined within the interior surface of the member wall, each cavity having side wall portions and a bottom portion together defining a three-dimensional well and having a depth less than the total member wall thickness and an opening exposed to the member lumen axis and not exposed to the member wall exterior surface, the at least one cavity containing the active substance, the member wall interior surface portion not forming the cavity being substantially free of active substance, wherein the ~~opening faces toward the vessel lumen axis~~ active substance retained within the cavity is released over time and directed toward the vessel lumen axis and downstream from the member~~; and,~~

~~d) at least one hollow body which is adapted to contain the active substance~~.

2. (presently amended) The implant of Claim 1, wherein the ~~basic body~~member comprises at least in part a biodegradable material selected from the group consisting of magnesium, iron and tungsten alloy.

3. (original) The implant of Claim 2, wherein the alloy is an alloy of the type WE.

4. (original) The implant of Claim 3, wherein the alloy is an alloy of the type WE43.

5. (original) The implant of Claim 2, wherein the alloy contains between 1 and 30% by weight of lithium.

6. (original) The implant of Claim 2, wherein the alloy contains between 0.1 and 10% by weight of aluminium.

7. (original) The implant of Claim 2, wherein the magnesium alloy contains between 0.01 and 2% by weight of zirconium.

8. (original) The implant of Claim 2, wherein the magnesium alloy comprises at least one constituent selected from the group consisting of rare earth metals, yttrium, lithium, aluminium and zirconium.

9. (presently amended) The implant of Claim 1 wherein the ~~basic body of the implant comprises~~member has a first, non-expanded condition and a second, expanded condition.

10. (cancelled)

11. (presently amended) The implant of Claim 1, wherein the ~~basic body~~member is tubular, cylindrical, spherical or reticulate.

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (new) An implant for releasing an active substance into a body vessel, the body vessel having a vessel wall and a vessel lumen through which body fluid can flow, the direction of fluid flow being defined by a vessel lumen axis, the implant comprising:

a) a hollow member made at least partially of a biodegradable material and having a wall with an interior surface defining a member lumen which is generally co-axial with the vessel lumen axis and through which fluid can flow, the wall also having an exterior surface which can contact the vessel wall when implanted; and,

b) at least one hollow space containing active substance and defined within the interior surface of the member wall by side wall portions, a bottom portion and a top portion, the hollow space having a depth less than the total member wall thickness,

wherein when the implant is implanted in a body vessel the top portion of the hollow space is degraded over time and the active substance retained within the hollow space is released through opening created by the top portion toward and into the member lumen and is directed generally toward the vessel lumen axis and downstream from the implant.